THE

WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

For MONDAY, March 12, 1804.

Innocence triumphant.—Illuſtrated by the Hiſtory of Eudoſius and Corinna.

(Concluded from Page 186.)

" Habes confitentem reum."—TULL.

" Connubio jungam ſtabili."—VIRG.

THE receipt of this letter gave Corinna's father the greateſt uneaſineſs. His ſurpriſe was inconceivable; his paſſion and diſtreſs unutterable. His rage, however, a little ſubſiding, reaſon and ſerenity ſucceeded. He determined to ſift into the truth of what he could hardly believe, and immediately ordered a ſervant to watch the motions of Eudoſius and Corinna. In this ſervant he placed the greateſt confidence, and never ſuſpected his honeſty or fidelity. Vario, however, had bought theſe rare accompliſhments, and prevailed on him to betray and accuſe the amiable couple. A purſe of gold ſecured him to his intereſt, with a promiſe of another, if he ſucceeded.

The ſervant ſoon found the virtuous lovers innocently walking in the grove, as uſual, and perhaps would have reported it ſo to his maſter; but, alas! the " auri ſacra fames," as Virgil ſays, that is, the deteſtable love of money, had ſuch an influence on the flagrant villain, that he ſwore to the truth of what Vario had aſſerted, in in his letter to Corinna's father. This threw the old gentleman into a moſt violent paſſion " It awakened all his ſoul within him." He vowed vengeance on Eudoſius, and reſolved to renounce his daughter. He went directly to the grove with armed ſervants, and found the injured lovers amuſing themſelves in the moſt innocent manner. However, the thoughts of what he believed had paſſed between them,

" gave his ſoul diſtraction." He therefore ordered his ſervants to ſecure them both; but Eudoſius, drawing his ſword, bid them defiance, and declared that the firſt man who dared to attack him, ſhould ſuffer for his audacity. He addreſſed himſelf to Corinna's father in the moſt becoming manner; but before he could ſay much, the ſervant that was bribed by Vario, ruſhed on Eudoſius, who immediately ran him through the body. However, he was ſoon compelled to ſubmit, being overpowered by the reſt of the ſervants. Corinna, fearing their intent was to murder her injured lover, fell on her knees to her father, and implored the reaſon he had conceived for ſuch unexpected and cruel treatment.

She was anſwered in a rough and unuſual tone of voice, that ſhe ſhould ſuffer for ſecretly converſing with Eudoſius, that they ſhould be immediately ſeparated and confined, and that they ſhould never again ſee each other. " I ſhall hearken," ſays he, " to nothing you may ſuggeſt; for know that your baſe practices have been diſcovered, and ye ſhall meet with that puniſhment you have both deſerved." Eudoſius was accordingly thrown into a gaol, and Corinna confined to her father's houſe. Thus, from the ſummit of pleaſure, were they reduced to the moſt deplorable and wretched ſtate. Some time elapſed before Eudoſius was tried for murder, but was ſoon acquitted; being found to have defended himſelf againſt thoſe who had no power or authority to aſſault him.

Vario, enraged that his wicked ſcheme had not fully anſwered, watched Eudoſius taking a ſolitary walk, and having with him an accomplice armed, reſolved to attack him. They came on him unawares, and demanded his ſword; but were told that their's ſhould be ſheathed in his body before he would give it up. Upon this, they furiouſly attacked Eudoſius, who had ſoon the good fortune to run Vario's companion through the wriſt, which compelled him to drop his ſword. He ſoon after diſarmed Vario himſelf, and was juſt going to end the days of ſuch an infernal brute, when Vario told him, that if he would ſpare his life, he would confeſs his treachery, and be the means of reſtoring to him his beloved Corinna.

Eudoſius elated with the thoughts of ſeeing again the object of all his wiſhes, declared that he would no further hurt him, if he would confeſs every thing before Corinna's father. Vario conſenting to it, and being brought before him with his infamous companion, Eudoſius requeſted him particularly to examine Vario, " as," ſays he, " it will at once free me from the ſcandalous imputation which has been ſo falſely laid to my charge." He was accordingly examined by Corinna's father and confeſſed his guilt in theſe words:

" I was the perſon who aſſaulted Corinna in the grove, with no innocent intention. Eudoſius reſcued her, and might have taken

taken my life. I wrote the letter to you ſigned *Anonymus*, accuſing both of them of incontinency: I alſo bribed your ungrateful ſervant to atteſt the truth of it, and have corrupted this fellow by ſimilar means to join with me in the deſtruction of Eudoſius: but as providence hath put it out of my power, and ſhewn me the heinouſneſs of my crimes, I am ready to ſuffer ſuch puniſhment as the law ſhall inflict upon me."

Corinna's father was now convinced of the innocence of Eudoſius and his daughter, and reſolved immediately to repair the injury he had done them both. He knew that Eudoſius had a diſintereſted regard for Corinna, and that Heaven ſeemed to dictate their union! he therefore releaſed his daughter moſt cheerfully from her confinement, and conducting her to Eudoſius, addreſſed him thus: "at length," ſays he, "the injuſtice that has been done to you, and my beloved daughter, is fortunately brought to light: you have acquitted yourſelf with honour, conſtancy, and fidelity; and to reward you for your ſufferings, I give you my amiable child, and after my death will poſſeſs you of all I have." "You, my deareſt Corinna, have proved yourſelf dutiful, innocent, and virtuous; permit me therefore to attend your union: I give you both my bleſſing, and will endeavour to promote, in every reſpect, your preſent and future happineſs."

They were accordingly married the next day, and the old gentleman gave Corinna a very conſiderable fortune, which, in a few years, was much augmented by his death. They are now living in their late father's manſion, in the moſt ſolid content and uninterrupted harmony; which can only be equalled by their ſincere love and firm attachment to each other. May they ſtill live as hitherto, the declared enemies of wickedneſs and vice: as well as the trueſt emblems and encouragers of innocence and virtue!

Swimbridge, December 22, 1803.

An ACCOUNT *of the* INHABITANTS *of* JAMAICA.

[From "The Hiſtory of the Maroons," &c. by R. C. Dallas, Eſq.]

THE number of ſlaves in Jamaica is computed, from authentic documents, to be at leaſt two hundred and fifty thouſand, excluſive of the Maroons. It is painful to an individual, unfriendly to ſlavery in any ſhape or under any modification, to recollect, that ſlavery, in a very abject degree, has exiſted among nations the moſt free and civilized, as well as deſpotic and barbarous, in all ages of the world, but eſpecially in the warm climates. It is a misfortune that puniſhes man: it is a political diſeaſe, that, for purpoſes to us inſcrutable, has

been permitted to continue, and taint inveterately the conſtitution of human ſociety. No revolutionary noſtrums recommended by ſtate empirics will eradicate it. Millions of the human race muſt by education be prepared for a new and ſound condition before an effectual remedy can be ſafely adminiſtered. But in Jamaica, the evil of ſervitude, to whatever height it may formerly have ariſen, is now aſſuaged by inſtitute, and tamed by manners.

The general treatment of the negroes in this iſland is temperate and humane: recent regulations, enforced by law, reſtrain the deſpotiſm of the maſter, and to a very ſalutary degree protect the ſlave. Improving humanity imperceptibly, but daily, ſupplies an influence by which their condition is ameliorating. The negroes on a ſugar-plantation are, for purpoſes of daily labour, divided into three claſſes.

The firſt is compoſed of the moſt robuſt of both ſexes: their chief employment conſiſts in preparing and planting the ſoil, cutting the canes, feeding the mill, and aiding in the manufacture of the ſugar and rum.

The ſecond claſs is compoſed of young boys and girls, pregnant women, and convaleſcents: theſe are ſeldom employed but in a light labour, adapted to their youth and condition.

The third claſs conſiſts of young children, governed by a careful old woman, who employs them in picking graſs, or other exerciſe equally gentle.

The firſt claſs at ſunriſe is ſummoned to the field by the ſound of a horn or bell: a white overſeer and a black driver ſuperintend them. The names being called over, and abſentees noted, their work commences, and continues till eight or nine o'clock: then, at leaſt half an hour is allotted for breakfaſt-time. This meal generally conſiſts of boiled or roaſted yams, or other vegetables, ſeaſoned with ſalt and Cayenne pepper.

Reſuming their work, they continue in the field till noon, when an interval of two hours is allowed for repoſe and refreſhment. The addition of ſalted fiſh to their vegetable meſſes commonly furniſhes their dinner.

At two o'clock they return again to the field, and work till ſunſet. In concluſion, they have probably been employed about ten hours in the day; during which, the moſt diligent of them has not executed more than one third of the common daily toil of an Engliſh farmer's labourer.

Every proprietor is compelled by law to cultivate in ground proviſions (of courſe indeſtructible by hurricanes) one acre for every ten negroes, beſide the allotment of negro territory. To cultivate this allotment, one day in every fortnight belongs to the ſlaves, excluſive of Sundays and holidays.

Thus they raiſe vegetables, poultry, pigs, or goats, which they conſume, beſtow or ſell. While ſome raiſe proviſions, others

fabricate

fabricate coarſe chairs, baſkets, or common tables. Theſe are bartered at market for ſalted meat, or pickled fiſh, utenſils, or gaudy dreſſes, of which they are fond. Their right of property in what they thus acquire is never queſtioned, but ſeems completely eſtabliſhed by cuſtom.

The cottages of the negroes on a plantation are uſually conſtructed on riſing ground, near a ſupply of pure water: the group reſembles a hamlet: tropical trees, which many of them plant about their habitations, ſhelter it, and diverſify its appearance. In ſtructure and comfort theſe cottages certainly ſurpaſs the cabins of the Iriſh peaſants. A ſingle cottage for a man and his wife is about twenty feet in length, divided into two apartments: it is compoſed of hard poſts driven into the ground, interlaced with wattles and plaiſtered: the floor is commonly of dry native earth: the roof is ſo well thatched with palm or cocoa leaves, as to be impervious both to ſun and rain.

Their cookery is conducted in the open air: they generally kindle a fire within doors at night, without which negroes cannot ſleep comfortably.

The negroes of Jamaica receive an annual allowance of Oznaburg linen, woollen baize, check; and at other times, knives, needles, thread, &c. But the moſt liberal allowance of the proprietors is made for medical and ſurgical aſſiſtance, and accommodation for their ſlaves when ſick.

Every plantation is provided with a commodious building, divided for an hoſpital. The ſick are daily viſited by profeſſional gentlemen, of ſcience and ſkill, who are well paid for conſtant attention: and in extraordinary caſes the uſual comforts of the European diet, ſuch as wine, gruel, &c. are ſuperadded: ſo that the ſituation of the ſick and the aged, for whom perpetual proviſion is made, commonly makes them ſome amends for the ſervitude they have undergone. The uſual labour of the old men is confined to watching the proviſion grounds; and that of the old women to nurſing thoſe that are ſick, and attending young children.

Another ſource of ſolace for the ſuperannuated is found in the univerſal veneration with which old age is treated by the African race. Accuſed, as they juſtly may be, of brutality to cattle, which they are prone to maltreat, to their aged people they are benevolent and reſpectful. *Ta quaco* and *qua maſheba* (my father and my mother) are terms that denote filial reverence and fondneſs: in theſe terms the old negroes are ever accoſted by the whole body of the younger, who muſt be in great diſtreſs themſelves if they fail to adminiſter to their wants, and mingle ſuccour and comfort with affection and veneration for the aged.

The general diffuſion and warmth of this dutiful ſentiment is the more remarkable in a people attached to the ſyſtem of polygamy.

gamy. This appropriation of women, which univerſally prevails in Africa, is alſo very generally adopted in the Weſt Indies. In Jamaica alone it is computed, that ten thouſand of thoſe leading ſlaves called head negroes, that is, drivers, coopers, carpenters, &c. poſſeſs from two to four wives. This practice, ſo pernicious in many points of view, has contributed to create ſuch a diſproportion in the number of the two ſexes, that there exiſts in Jamaica an exceſs of above thirty thouſand male negroes.

There are ten thouſand people of colour in Jamaica. Theſe deſcendants of negroes by white people are amongſt the moſt robuſt of our race; and their qualities, both of body and mind, are ſuppoſed by many impartial individuals to be well adapted for exerciſe and improvement in all the tropical regions. But they are not entitled to the civil and political rights of a natural born ſubject, until removed above three degrees from the negro; and although there are diſtinctions of name, following blood and complexion, ſuch as ſamboes, mulattoes, meſtics, &c. the law of Jamaica contemplates the whole body as mulattoes. Their legal capacities are very imperfectly defined.

Their principal incapacities, diſtinguiſhing them from the whites, are theſe: in criminal caſes their evidence is inadmiſſible againſt a white: they are ineligible to ſerve in parochial veſtries, or general aſſemblies: they are incapable of acting in any office of public truſt, or of holding any commiſſion in the militia: and when born out of wedlock, they cannot take and hold by deviſe property real or perſonal that exceeds in value 2000l. currency. But theſe reſtrictions are often removed by particular acts of the legiſlature in favour of individuals. The fidelity and loyalty of the people of colour is unimpeached: their attachment to the whites is uniform and ſincere: their progreſs in knowledge, being animated by no encouragement, has been ſlow; but if a juſt eſtimate may be formed of the capabilities of this race from inſulated examples of merit among them, their faculties are worthy of better cultivation and completer developement.

The white population of Jamaica has been computed at about thirty thouſand ſouls. Of this number, a very conſiderable portion conſiſts of native Europeans; and of thoſe born on the iſland many have been educated in the mother country. Yet notwithſtanding theſe migrations and much reſidence in Europe, climate and moral cauſes combining with political inſtitutions, and the peculiar ſtate of ſtate of ſociety in the Weſt Indies, have created a caſt of character that may be diſtinguiſhed, and is ſufficiently marked in the native white creoles of Jamaica. Maſters of ſlaves, they are jealous and proud of their own freedom, which is to them not merely an enjoyment, but a dignity and rank. Hence throughout all claſſes of them, there is diffuſed and diſ-

played an independence of ſpirit, combined with a certain conſciouſneſs of equality, unknown to the European communities.

Many cauſes of national character are ſo mixed as to be almoſt inſcrutable. It may, perhaps, be partly aſcribed to the ſenſibility that a warm climate excites, that creoles are ſaid to be impatient of ſubordination, and addicted to juridical controverſy. But if ſome be litigious, others oſtentatious, and many extravagant, in general it may be truly affirmed of them as a race, that they are bright, intrepid, frank, and intelligent; actuated by a high ſenſe of honour, eminent for hoſpitality, diſtinguiſhed by vivacity, and nobly generous.

LONDON FASHIONS *for* MARCH.

Full Dresses.

1. A Round dreſs of Egyptian brown or puce-coloured ſarſnet. The body made quite plain, very low in the back and over the boſom. Sleeves of white ſatin trimmed with lace. Cap of white ſatin or muſlin, trimmed with pink and black velvet; a bunch of heron feathers fixed on the left ſide; white ſhoes, ſwanſdown muff and tippet.

2. A robe of ſlate-coloured ſarſnet, with ſleeves of lace and muſlin, or worked muſlin; a lace tucker drawn acroſs the boſom. A turban of ſlate-coloured ſatin to match the dreſs, ornamented with pearls or diamonds, and heron feathers. White ſhoes.

3. A robe of white ſatin, trimmed with ſwanſdown; white tippet. A Spaniſh hat of black, turned up on one ſide, and ornamented with a black feather.

4. Round dreſs of white or coloured muſlin, with a fur tippet. The hair dreſſed and ornamented with an elegant tiara and combs.

Head Dresses.

1. A cap of white crape, trimmed round the front and to the top of the crown with white lace; a bunch of roſes in front.

2. A hat of pink crape, trimmed round the front, and ornamented with flowers.

3. A cap of buff ſatin, trimmed with pink and black velvet, and a deep lace border.

4. A cap of white crape, trimmed with white ribbon and a bunch of flowers.

5. A cap of buff ſatin, with a large twiſt of white crape round the front, and a very long end on the left ſide; a bunch of roſes in front.

6. A turban of yellow crape; the crown flat, with a very large twiſt round the front, ornamented with pearls and yellow feathers.

7. A turban of blue crape and white ſatin, ornamented with blue feathers.

8. A hat of Etruſcan ſilk, ornamented with a willow feather.

9. A cap of white crape, ornamented with pink lilies. A lace border.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

The prevailing colours are Egyptian brown, buff, and pink. The dreſſes ſtill continue to be made very low, and lace is introduced into almoſt every part of them. Turbans are much worn. The hair, when dreſſed without a turban, is in large bows; and ornamented with pearls or diamond combs.

Large ſilk ſhawls of a new fabrick, in imitation of leopard's ſpots, are much worn, for the opera and play. Black velvet pelices, and ſpencers, continue to form the walking dreſſes.

DESCRIPTION *of a* DUTCH FAIR.

[From Holcroft's Travels through Holland, and the Netherlands, to Paris.]

THE traveller, ſpeaking of the Hague, ſays: "I came to the great mall, where ambaſſadors and diſtinguiſhed perſons, many of them reſide. Here it was that the fair was held; and I walked up the row, to view an exhibition of varied induſtry and art. Not only the moſt uſeful neceſſaries were here, but many of the luxuries and ornaments of life. A diſplay of the collected powers of the human mind, and the contemplation of them is its higheſt pleaſure.

"I walked forward and came to ſhow-booths; bears and tigers within, monkies and parrots without. Here rope-dancers, notorious jugglers, and Dutch buffoons; and there, a cabinet or muſeum of natural hiſtory, with all the arcana of philoſophy developed. A whimſical aſſemblage! But a Dutch fair is not the only place in which philoſophy plays the fool.

"This is ungenerous in me. Poor philoſophy is fallen into ſuch diſcredit at preſent, that to beſpatter her now is as unmanly as to throw mire at a wretch in the pillory.

"But what is it that diſtinguiſhes a Dutch fair from a fair in England?—This is the difficult part of the picture. The efforts to attract notice, and the arts to get money, every where greatly reſemble each other; yet the local ſhades are ſufficiently ſtrong and numerous to form a very different whole. It is the minute-

neſs and multiplicity of them that render them far from eaſy to deſcribe.

" I came to an aſſemblage of booths, the decorations of which were certainly national. Within and without, they were hung with large braſs diſhes, clean, bright, and emboſſed with various figures of no ordinary workmanſhip. What could they mean?—they ſurely were a kind of ſigns? The people within were of the lower claſs: what had they to ſell? I inquired, and found it was a kind of greaſy cake, or pancake, which they cooked; the ſauce to which was drams. The fineſt ornaments of a hundred kitchens were here expoſed to admiration. This was Dutch: what could be ſo attractive to the gueſts?

" Near the ſame ſpot, I ſaw groups of boys, diverting themſelves; while peaſants ſtood round, watching and admiring. And what was their dexterous game?—It was, to place a cake of gingerbread, in equilibrium, on the edge of a hatchet, and, by ſtriking at it with another hatchet, to cut it in two parts.

" I did not perfectly underſtand the rules; but it appeared the boy gave a ſmall coin to the vender of gingerbread, for which he had one or more ſtrokes. The place round where he ſtood was ſtrewed with ſand; the gingerbread was purpoſely made pliant, that it might not eaſily be divided, and the blow was ſeldom ſucceſsful. The cake was dirtied, the boys laughed, and the vexed boy tried again. He obtained his gingerbread, after, perhaps, paying trebly for it, and had the ſand into the bargain. It amuſed the ſpectators, exerciſed his ingenuity, and prompted him to better attempts.

" But the chief thing which affects the eye of a foreigner, as ſomething unuſual, is, the general coſtume; the dreſſes, phyſiognomies, and peculiar appearance, of the lower claſſes, decked in their holiday finery. Broad pewter and ſilver buckles; large and ſmall buttons, both in exceſs, and both of ancient uſage; ſome with ſhort veſts, and others with coats down to their heels, each of them fitting cloſe, and ſhewing the waiſt; projecting hips, the men wearing eight or ten pair of breeches, the women at leaſt as many petticoats; ſtockings of various colours, not excepting purple, red, and yellow; peaſant girls in ſhort jackets, with their gold ornaments and rich Bruſſels lace; tobacco-pipes, various in their form and ſize; and countenances with a frequent tinge of the livid: theſe are a few of the many marks which catch the ſtranger's eye and characteriſe the people."

HINT *to the* WEARERS *of* MUSLIN.

THE inflammability of muſlin dreſſes may be prevented by rincing them out in allum water, made by diſſolving the

proportion of a hen's egg (or even leſs) in a quart of water.—That by this ſimple means all danger of life will be prevented, any one may eſſay, by burning a rag of muſlin ſo rinced, and dried, againſt another rag unprepared; the firſt will burn gradually and with difficulty, whilſt the ſecond will flame away inſtantaneouſly.

Original Letter of the late General Wolfe.

SIR,

YOU can't find me a more agreeable employment than to ſerve or oblige you, and I wiſh with all my heart that my inclination and abilities were of equal force. I don't recollect what it was I recommended to Mr. ———'s nephew, it might be the Comte de Turpin's book, which was certainly worth looking into, as it contains a good deal of plain practice. Your brother no doubt is maſter of the Latin and French languages, and has ſome knowledge of the mathematics. Without the laſt he can never become acquainted with one conſiderable branch of our buſineſs, the conſtruction of fortifications, and the attack and defence of places; and I would adviſe him by all means to give up a year or two of his time now while he is young, if he has not already done it, to the ſtudy of the mathematics, becauſe it will greatly facilitate his progreſs in military matters. As to the books that are fitteſt for his purpoſe, he may begin with the King of Pruſſia's Regulations for his Horſe and Foot, where the economy and good order of an army in the lower branches is extremely correct: then there are the Memoirs of the Marquis de Santa Cruz, Feuquiere, Montecuculi; Folard's Commentaries upon Polybius; the Projet de Taktique, ou la Phalange, couplee et doublee; L'Attaque et la Defenſe des Places, par le Marechal de Vauban; Les Memoires de Goulon, L'Ingenieur de Campagne, par St. Remi, for all that concerns artillery:—Of the ancients, Vegetius, Cæſar, Thucydides, Xenophon's Life of Cyrus, and The Retreat of the 10,000 Greeks. I don't mention Polybius, becauſe the commentaries and the hiſtory generally go together of later days. Davila, Guicciardini, Strada, the Memoirs of the Duc de Sully.

There is abundance of military knowledge to be picked out of the lives of Guſtavus Adolphus and Charles XII. Kings of Sweden; alſo of Ziſca the Bohemian: and if a tolerable account could be got of the exploits of Scanderbeg, it would be ineſtimable; for he excels all the officers ancient and modern in the conduct of a ſmall defenſive army. I met with him in the Turkiſh Hiſtory, but no where elſe. The life of Sertorius contains many fine things this way; there is a book lately publiſhed, that I have heard commended, "l'Art la Guerre par Pratique,"

Pratique;" I ſuppoſe it is collected from all the beſt authors that treat of war: and there is a little volume intitled "De la petite Guerre" that your brother ſhould take in his pocket when he goes upon duties and detachments. The Marſhall de Puyſegur's book too is in eſteem. I believe Mr. ——— will think this catalogue long enough; and if he has patience to read and a deſire to apply, as I am perſuaded he has, the knowledge contained in them, there is wherewithal to make him a conſiderable perſon in his profeſſion, and of courſe very uſeful and ſerviceable to his country.

In general the lives of all great commanders and all good hiſtories of warlike nations will be very inſtructive, and lead him naturally to imitate what he muſt neceſſarily approve of. In theſe days of ſcarcity, and in theſe unlucky times, it is much to be wiſh'd that all our young ſoldiers of birth and education would * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

THOUGHTS *on the* DECAY *of* LITERATURE.

[By Le Chevalier de Jaucourt.]

THE time is now come, when very little importance is attached to a man of learning, who employs his erudition for the purpoſe of explaining or correcting difficult paſſages in ancient authors, or ſettling a diſputed point of geography or grammar. He is conſidered as a pedant, and by that reproach young men are deterred from the ſtudy of ancient languages, who might otherwiſe diſcover zeal and talents in the proſecution of the ſtudies which are denominated *humanity*. As the charge of pedantry is of the formidable nature, moſt perſons forbear applying to ancient literature, from the well-grounded dread of an imputation ſo mortifying and degrading. There is every reaſon to believe, that one of the principal cauſes of the decline of belles lettres, is derived from the arrogance of ſeveral pretenders to wit and good breeding, who have introduced the cuſtom of decrying, as a ſort of college attainment, the practice of quoting Greek or Latin authors, or any other mark of erudition. They have been unjuſt enough to involve in their criticiſms ſeveral writers who had the beſt claims on the public favour, and were eminent for their knowledge of the world.

After ſuch injurious treatment, who would aſpire to the glory of being a votary of ancient literature, or venture to diſplay his reading, his critical powers, or his erudition? Had they confined their cenſures to writers, who are not gifted with taſte or judgement, who quote Plato and Ariſtotle, Hippocrates and Varro, in order to prove a poſition, which is allowed by every ſect and every civilized nation, their raillery would not have

alarmed any perſon of real merit and eſtimation; but by their diſdainful airs they have baniſhed from the polite world, and driven into the duſt of the ſchools, every man that ventured to make collections of the precious remains of antiquity, or enrich his mind by the peruſal of the moſt renowned writers of Greece and Rome. The effect of theſe contemptuous cenſures has been more prejudicial, becauſe attended with the ſpecious pretext, that we ought to endeavour to cultivate the mind, and form the judgement, and not to hoard up in our memories the ſentiments and ſayings of other perſons.

As this maxim has an air of plauſibility, it has made a deep impreſſion on the minds of the indolent and inattentive, and induced them to turn into ridicule the ſtudy of ancient learning and general literature; but the principal motive of thoſe critics, we muſt candidly confeſs, was only to under-rate, and depreſs the pretenſions of other candidates, and to raiſe their own importance in the opinion of the world. Being incapable of that perſeverance which is neceſſary to obtain a tolerable portion of ancient literature, they criticiſed and aſperſed the ſcholars, whom they were unable to rival in that department; and by their inceſſant efforts they have contributed to diffuſe a frivolous taſte through the republic of letters, which tends to throw it back into ignorance and barbariſm.

Notwithſtanding the ſarcaſms of ignorant buffoons, we ſhall ſtedfaſtly maintain, that literature alone can give a poliſh to the mind, improve the taſte, and add graces and ornaments to the ſciences themſelves. In order to arrive at a profound knowledge of antiquity, we muſt abandon the authors who have written ſuperficially on that ſubject, and endeavour to derive our information from the original ſources, whether we wiſh to attain a knowledge of the religion, politics, government, laws, and manners, and of the cuſtoms, ceremonies, games, feſtivals, ſacrifices, and public ſpectacles of the Greeks and Romans. We may be allowed to apply to the curious inveſtigators of theſe matters, and this vaſt and entertaining erudition, what Plautus ſays pleaſantly in his prologue to the Menechmi:—"The ſcene is at Epidamus, a town of Macedonia; tranſport yourſelves there, and continue there till the end of the piece."

ANECDOTES *of the late* MR. JOHN HOOLE.

[Lately publiſhed by his Brother.]

MR. HOOLE's fondneſs for literature ſhewed itſelf when he was a boy, ſo as to make him a favourite with his ſchool-maſter, while his harmleſs and gentle diſpoſition cauſed him to be beloved by his ſchool-fellows. He quitted ſchool, well verſed

verſed in the Latin and French languages, with a ſmall portion of the Greek: he was perfect maſter of arithemetic, a moſt excellent penman, and poſſeſſed a good talent in drawing; but his knowledge of Italian was entirely his own acquiring after he quitted ſchool. His father, Mr. Samuel Hoole, who then carried on a branch of the watch-making buſineſs, (which by the uſe of ſome newly-invented engines, of his own conſtruction, he had rendered very profitable) wiſhed to have brought him up in his own trade, and actually began to teach him the uſe of his tools; but to this way of life, nature had oppoſed an inſuperable bar, for John Hoole was ſo very ſhort-ſighted, that he could not practice the trade without great inconvenience, nor in ſome reſpects without danger, from the fragments of braſs and ſteel, to which his eyes, by their near approach to his work, were expoſed. He was not, however, wanting in mechanical talents, for he not only completed ſome pieces of work with his own hands, but in many reſpects was aſſiſting to his father, in the machinery which he conſtructed for Mr. Rich, the then proprietor of Covent Garden Theatre.—Being prevented from exerciſing any mechanical calling, he was placed in the ſervice of the Eaſt India company, in their accountants' office, under Mr. Hort, the chief accountant, of whoſe abilities, integrity, and kind treatment of the young men under his care, he always ſpoke with reſpect.

While in this office, Mr. Hoole formed an intimate connection with ſeveral clerks in the company's ſervice of his own age, particularly Mr. Peter Corbett, Mr. John Winter, Mr. Ranceford Tookey, and Mr. John Triſtram; young men of good ſenſe, but all ſingular or eccentric characters, and with them he ſpent many of his leiſure hours. They uſed frequently to dine and ſup together, but were never guilty of any ſuch nocturnal revels, as frequently diſgrace the characters of young gentlemen. Their youthful parties were always entertaining, and often whimſically diverting.

Mr. Hoole's principal amuſement, however, was at the theatre, where he had free acceſs behind the ſcenes, in virtue of his father's being machiniſt: but thence aroſe an inconvenience which the father had not foreſeen; namely, that the ſon began to conceive a great reliſh for a theatrical life, ſo far as to form ſerious thoughts of appearing on the ſtage; but his father having declared his entire diſapprobation of ſuch a meaſure, he would not indulge his propenſity any farther than by privately amuſing himſelf and his friends with the rehearſal of different plays.

Mr. Hoole uſed to tell a ſtory of a whimſical diſtreſs he was brought into by his ſhort-ſightedneſs, while performing the part of the ghoſt in Hamlet, at the little theatre in Lincoln's Inn Fields, (now a china warehouſe), for having almoſt finiſhed his ſpeech to young Hamlet, and coming near to the period when

the ghoſt deſcends, he was not able to diſcern the place where the trap door would open; and fearing, either to miſs the ſpot, and to be left ſtanding on the ſtage, or of meeting with ſome accident, by the trap door opening where he did not expect it, he protracted his ſpeech as much as he could, "But ſoft,—methinks I ſcent the morning air,—brief let me be," &c. at the ſame time feeling about the ſtage with his foot for the trap door, while his friend who acted as prompter, in as great diſtreſs as himſelf, cried in a whiſper, "Here Jack, here Jack, a little more this way." He however, luckily, hit the right place, and deſcended with proper ghoſtly dignity.

Together with his attachment to poetry, Mr. John Hoole was not indifferent to the loves and graces; his heart was early ſuſceptible of the tender paſſion. In the year 1757, he married Miſs Suſannah Smith, of Biſhop Stortford; ſhe was frequently called the handſome quaker; and in marriage with her, he formed a connection with two very worthy families, the Smiths, of Biſhop Stortford, and the Etheredges, of Buntingford; and through them he became acquainted with Mr. John Scott, of Amwell, by profeſſion a quaker, but a good poet, and author of many pleaſing and well known productions. He alſo received every teſtimony of regard from the quakers in general; for, though that ſociety are averſe to marriages with thoſe of a different perſuaſion, yet no ſect whatever could have refuſed their cordial friendſhip to a man of Mr. John Hoole's deſcription.

During the early part of Mr. Hoole's marriage, his appointments at the India-Houſe were but ſlender; this, however, he ſupplied by his induſtry, and at extra hours laboured indefatigably, in making out the invoices for the company's outward-bound ſhips; and moreover employed himſelf in tranſlations from French publications, relative to the tranſactions of that nation in India, during the war of 1756, commonly called the ſeven years war.

Upon Mr. Hoole's removal from the accountants' office to that of the auditor of Indian accounts, he not only enjoyed a more lucrative poſt than in his former ſtation, but alſo the conſtant company of Mr. Oldmixon, the chief of that office: who, like himſelf, was a reader of the Italian language, and an admirer of poetry in general. It was probably at the inſtance of this gentleman, that Mr. Hoole determined on writing his tragedy of Cyrus; and, that he might complete it without interruption, he, in the autumn of 1767, having obtained leave of abſence from the India Houſe, ſuddenly diſappeared from among his friends and acquaintance in London, until they began to be ſeriouſly alarmed about him, particularly his mother, who then lived in Moorfields with her youngeſt ſon and daughter; ſhe was, however, at length relieved from her anxiety, by a letter from Mr. John Hoole to his brother, inviting him to his retreat,

which

which proved to be a ſmall houſe by the Thames ſide, at Wandſworth, in the neighbourhood of Mr. Oldmixon; and, upon Mr. Samuel Hoole's repairing thither, he found his brother in good health, who merrily acquainted him with the cauſe of his abſconding. This rural retirement was ſo much to Mr. John Hoole's taſte, that he continued in the houſe for ſeveral years, and took great pleaſure in paſſing to and fro by water, having at the ſame time chambers in Clement's Inn.

In the month of September, 1770, Mr. Hoole had the misfortune to break the patella or knee-pan of his leg by a fall, in the duſk of the evening, down a flight of ſteps, which were then at the end of George's-court, Clerkenwell, but which, ſoon afterwards, as if it had been to ſave others from the like accident, were taken away, and the place made a gradual ſlope. This fracture, which is deemed by the faculty very difficult to treat, and very tedious in the cure, confined him to his bed in Clement's Inn, for ſeveral months, during which time, he was conſtantly and carefully attended by that eminent ſurgeon, Mr. Richard Grindall, who had a great friendſhip for him; and his long confinement was alleviated by frequent viſits from his numerous friends and acquaintance. As ſoon as he was ſo far recovered as to be able to quit his chamber, he removed to his mother's houſe in Moorfields, where a bed was provided for him on the ground floor, to ſave the neceſſity of going up and down ſtairs, and two chairmen came regularly every day, with what is called a boot chair, having an extended cavity at the bottom, to permit the leg's being placed in a ſtraight poſture; and thus he was conveyed to attend his duty at the India Houſe.

This fracture of the patella generally produces a ſtiffneſs in the joint, which ever afterwards prevents the patient from walking without difficulty: and this was a cauſe of great anxiety on the part of Mr. Hoole: he did indeed for ſome time experience that inconvenience, though not to ſo great a degree as he expected; but, a few years afterwards, he had the misfortune (if it is to be ſo called) of breaking his knee-pan a ſecond time; and after this ſecond fracture was healed, he found the joint become more flexible, and conſequently he could walk with more eaſe. The ſame accident befell him a third time, and with the like ſucceſs; for the joint of his knee now allowed full motion to the leg, by which means he walked during all the remainder of his life, with great eaſe and vigour, and with little or no appearance of limping in his gait.

REFLECTION.

AMONG all the oddities of human nature no one is ſtranger than that opulent perſons ſhould not delight in acts of beneficence.

POPULATION *of the County of* SOMERSET.

From the Lists lately returned by Order of Government.

Chief Places.	*Houſes.*	*Males.*	*Females*	*Total Perſons.*
Axbridge	162	371	448	819
Bath	4463	12441	19759	32200
Bridgewater	493	1715	1919	3634
Bedminſter	649	1505	1773	3278
Biſhop's Lideard	205	523	545	1068
Bruton	333	700	931	1631
Caſtle Cary	240	606	675	1281
Chewton	165	472	543	1015
Crewkerne	492	1154	1422	2576
Chard Land	305	728	844	1572
Chard Borough	248	529	683	1212
Dunſter	219	370	402	772
Ditcheat	167	492	518	1010
Dulverton	199	479	570	1049
Evercreech	226	448	470	918
Frome	1709	4084	4664	8748
Glaſtonbury	410	936	1090	2035
Ilminſter	366	994	1059	2045
Ilcheſter	138	386	431	817
Kingſbury	211	533	601	1134
Langport Eaſtover	129	361	393	754
Minehead	339	494	674	1168
Martock	376	951	1151	2102
Milborne Port	221	440	513	953
Montacute	172	377	450	827
Milverton	316	715	952	1667
North Petherton	451	1159	1187	2346
Porlock	127	274	326	600
Shepton Mallett	1154	2310	2794	5104
Stogumber	221	612	673	1285
South Petherton	351	773	901	1674
Somerton	252	546	599	1145
Taunton	1194	2450	3344	5794
Wincanton	381	808	964	1772
Wellington	767	1789	2244	4033
Wiveliſcombe	476	1124	1447	2571
Wells	796	1942	2295	4237
Wedmore	402	1099	1023	2122
Yeovil	777	1234	1540	2774
Remaining Pariſhes	29894	48924	94014	162008
Total Population excluſive of Army and Navy	50176	126927	146823	273750
Briſtol City, claſſed in Glouceſterſhire,	10896	26943	36702	63645

Baptiſms & Burials in Somerſetſhire.

Years.	*Baptiſms.*	*Burials.*
1700	4905	3906
1710	4225	4163
1720	4916	4487
1730	4880	5879
1740	4924	5575
1750	5623	4100
1760	5781	4516
1770	6113	4474
1780	6322	5492
1781	6274	4885
1782	5984	4506
1783	6289	4939
1784	6432	5409
1785	7006	5541
1786	6337	5046
1787	6329	5085
1788	6707	4998
1789	6876	5396
1790	7063	4729
1791	6877	3843
1792	7500	4792
1793	7400	5571
1794	7372	5099
1795	6674	5225
1796	7133	4874
1797	7044	5101
1798	7230	4783
1799	7074	5060
1800	6924	5228

CHARACTER *of* MERCHANTS.

[From the French of M. Laharpe.]

THERE is not, in the whole circle of ſociety, a claſs of men more eminently uſeful than that of the merchants. Their active induſtry ſupplies ſubſiſtence and proviſions for a whole country, and their efforts animate the induſtry of the manufacturer and the artiſt. In general, we may obſerve that they become rich with the increaſing wealth and comfort of the community; their credit reſts upon a reputation of probity and fair dealing, and their profits are in proportion to the riſques which they may encounter. They cannot augment their fortunes without expoſing them, and augmenting at the ſame time the fortunes of the public; and their profeſſion and their talents are in eſtimation wherever any portion of good ſenſe is to be found. They have been uniformly encouraged in every country where there ever has exiſted any ſhadow of a reaſonable and legitimate government; and they are naturally the friends and ſupporters of liberty and law, becauſe without liberty and law, no commerce can be expected to flouriſh, or even to exiſt. Within the period of the laſt century, they had been gradually riſing into importance and general eſtimation; they had even ſecured the ſuffrages of the learned, and the enlightened patrons of freedom and public happineſs, and philoſophy had numbered them among the moſt ſteady benefactors of the human race.

CHARACTER *of* BANKERS.

[From the French of M. De Seze.]

BANKERS are the moſt diſtinguiſhed characters in the mercantile claſs, and are deſtined to pour the riches of one country into another, without hazard or inconvenience. Their names invite the confidence and connections of the different countries of Europe. The extent of their correſpondence, the univerſality of their credit, the aſcendancy of the general eſtimation which they acquire, have beſtowed on them a ſovereignty of opinion of boundleſs influence and extent: they join in alliance foreign and even hoſtile powers, and they form the links of the chain of commerce that binds the two hemiſpheres. They are always ſerviceable, and often neceſſary to the government and adminiſtration of their own country; they aſſiſt it in every perilous and perplexing criſis; they enlighten it by their experience and information, and as they never indulge in extravagant views of political ſpeculation, or intrigues of ambition, they cannot be ſuſpected of entertaining deſigns prejudicial to the governments under which they live.

Anſwer, by R. Holwell, of Exeter, to J. Paſcal's Enigma, inſerted January 16.

AMBITION! cruel foe to man,
Tyrants purſue thy horrid plan.

☞ We have received the like anſwer from J. Squance, and W. Strong, of Exeter; A. Kyne, of Dartmouth; Recluſe, of Awliſcombe; and T. Bullock, of St. Columb.

Anſwer, by E. R. Bickham, of Newton Buſhel, to Primroſe's Charade, inſerted January 16.

A LANDSCAPE, Sir, is what is meant by you,
Its pleaſing ſcene delights the eye to view.

*** We have received the like anſwer from R. Holwell, J. Squance, and W. Strong, of Exeter; Eliza Mary Courtenay, of Woodsford Caſtle, near Dorcheſter; A. Kyne, jun. of Dartmouth; R. Horſey, of Wellington; R. Bartlett, of Lopen; W. Gifford, of South Petherton; T. Coumbe, of St. German's; G. Holland, of Stoke Abbot; and T. Bullock, of St. Columb.

A CHARADE, *by J. Ball, of Taunton.*

THE noble war-horſe with my firſt is check'd,
When to the charge he flies with haughty bound;
Not ſo his blood, for with indignant rage,
He champs the galling bit, and ſpurns the ground.
Within the precincts of ſome large domain
My next is found cropping the tender graſs;
And thoſe that travel over Lapland's plains
Without my whole thoſe plains could never paſs.

An ENIGMA, *by J. Paſcal.*

FELL ruin waits my ſteps, deſtruction dire,
Combin'd with carnage, feed my vengeful ire;
When with marauding ſtrides I ſtalk around,
Confuſion, tumult, every where abound;
What tho' the widow or the orphan plead,
To Heaven for imprecations on my head,
I fear not theſe, their griefs can't me annoy,
For I will conquer, and mankind deſtroy;
Great is my pow'r, oppreſſive is my ſway,
Revenge, ambition, lead my furious way;
No pity, no remorſe, in me are known,
But ſavage fury fiercely drives me on;
Fell murder, rapine, my companions are,
With miſery, terror, treachery, and deſpair;
An imp of faction, patron of decreaſe,
A bar to friendſhip, and a foe to peace.

☞ *The letter addreſſ'd to Sir Sidney Smith, we are obliged to our correſpondent for tranſcribing. It has been printed in the magazines, and does not entirely ſuit this publication.*

*** *Damon and Chloe is too trifling even for a* paſtoral.

☞ *The ſelections from old manuſcripts would probably be acceptable to the editor of the Gentleman's Magazine, but they are not calculated for this work.*

☞ *R. M.'s ſolutions to W. Soper's, and T. Bullock's queſtions are erroneous.*

POETRY.

For the Weekly Entertainer.

An Hymn written for the General Fast, appointed to be held on the 18th Day of October, 1803.

BRITONS! with humble homage bow
Before the great Eternal's throne;
With contrite hearts his aid implore,
And to your God your griefs make known.

He'll hear his people's humble pray'rs,
Like early incenſe they ſhall riſe,
Reach your kind Saviour's mercy ſeat,
Far, far beyond the ſpangled ſkies.

Where ſits enthron'd, in radiance bright,
Our God, omnipotent in power;
Who with his arm our foes can cruſh,
And ſave us in each dangerous hour.

Our God is ever to be found,
Let's ſeek him then with duteous zeal;
He ever lends a gracious ear,
His truth and mercies never fail.

All hail our Great Eternal King!
We humbly to thy altars fly,
Recording angels note our prayers,
And waft them to thy throne on high.

In accents mild Jehovah ſpoke,
I've heard my people's mournful cry;
"My ſervants! haſte to Albion's "ſhores,
"And with my power their foes "defy.

"Teach them to know I'm God alone,
"The tyrant's inmoſt thoughts I "ſee;
"My vengeance on their heads I'll "pour,
"And ſet my ſuppliant people free.

"I'll ſcatter them like chaff away,
"And in my wrath I'll ſmite them "down;
"My indignation they ſhall feel,
"I can deſtroy them with a frown."

Thus ſpoke our Great, Almighty Lord
To his bleſt ſpirits on their way,
His awful mandates to fulfil,
And his divine commands obey.

Swift as the forked lightning ſhoots,
On Albion's ſhores they take their ſtand,
Waving aloft deſtructive ſwords
To ſhield from harm our favour'd land.

Britons revere, and truſt that Power
Who rules the nations with his rod;
In him you'll find a ſure defence,
A kind protector in your God.

A. M. *Newton Abbot.*

For the Weekly Entertainer.

TO THE CROCUS.

GAY harbinger of roſy ſpring,
What pleaſures doth thy preſence bring;
How ſweet to view thy golden head,
Peeping from thy lowly bed,
When Sol's bright rays reſplendent ſhine,
On thy lovely form divine,
While you, array'd in rich attire,
Proud emulate his noble fire.

As, on her purple wings upborne,
Aurora bright proclaims the morn,
Diffuſing o'er the landſcape gay
The tokens of approaching day;
So you, fair flower, ſpring's elder born,
In beauty clad proclaims her morn;
And lovely, 'neath the azure ſky,
Her renovating ſweets diſplay.

Thy charms, tho' deſtin'd to decay
Ere ſpring leads on the roſy May,
Yet know, ſweet child of young creation,
If memory yields thee conſolation,
Thouſands of flow'rets o'er thy ſhade
Shall then in ſplendour ſtand array'd;
And ſweetly o'er thy tomb exhale,
Rich odours to perfume the gale.

O let me then to fancy fly!
Borne on the wings of extacy.
Methinks I ſee reviving ſpring
Her flowing cornucopias bring;
Whilſt thro' the woods the feather'd choir
Salute with joy the happy hour,
That ſmiles propitious on their mirth
And gives their gay Vertumnus birth.

Clowance. T. R.

Addreſs to the Britiſh Nation, at the preſent important Criſis, written by a young Gentleman, aged 14.

HARDY Britons, in whoſe breaſts
Patriotic valour reſts;
Whoſe ſtern eye the ſoul declares,
Where undaunted courage glares;
Who can brook the hoſtile foe,
Who can ward the tyrant's blow—
Save thy country, king, and laws,
Or fall a victim in its cauſe.

Hark! the clarion from afar,
Sounds th' event of dreadful war:
Hark! the hoarſe-tun'd trumpet calls
Britain's ſons to guard her walls:
Hark the baſs-reſounding drum
Bids each loyal Briton come,
Albion's freedom to defend
From tyranny, grim-monſter'd fiend.

Rous'd by thy unrivall'd fame,
Gallia's envy is on flame,
Vex'd to ſee rich plenty ſmile,
In this happy, favour'd iſle;
Envious to behold thy ſhores
Laden with commercial ſtores,
Brought, by hard laborious toil,
From diſtant India's fertile ſoil.

Urg'd by envy, fiend of Hell!
Who has thus feign'd honour well,
Gallia, with her num'rous hoſt,
Threats invaſion to thy coaſt—
If but fortune once would ſmile,
Dire deſtruction to this iſle;
Threats, the deareſt prize of all,
Thy ancient liberty t' enthral.

Riſe then, Britons, to oppoſe
Gallia's ſons, thy deadly foes;
Gallia's ſons, who oft have felt
Various ſhocks thy arm hath dealt!
Seize the muſket, or the ſword,
Nor, till liberty reſtor'd,
Brings ſweet peace, with all her train,
Conſent to lay them down again.

Shall the heady-minded Gaul
Glory in Britannia's fall?
Shall it, Britons, e'er be ſaid
Engliſh heroes were afraid,
When proud Gallia's hoſtile band
Threaten'd their offended land?
Shall the fierce invaders ſmile,
To view thy land a captur'd iſle?

Shall a Corſican preſide?
Shall a Frenchman be our guide?
Shall true Engliſhmen diſown
Freedom's ſway, and ſee the throne
Fill'd by one of Gallia's land,
And from him receive command?
No: let patriot Britons cry,
A glorious death, or liberty!

Heard ye not, ye Britons bold,
Albion's deeds in times of old?
Heard ye not how France deplor'd
Armies conquer'd by thy ſword?
Heard ye not how Engliſh bands
Spread deſtruction thro' their lands?
Heard ye not, at Creſſy's field,
How Edward made their numbers yield?

Heard ye not how Henry laid
Thouſands on the field for dead?
Heard ye not, at Agincourt,
How he cut their numbers ſhort?
Heard ye not how Marlbro's name
Stamp'd illuſtrious Britain's fame?
Then let Gallia's tyrant know
We're ſtill that brave and conqu'ring foe!

Call'd to war, thy muſkets wield,
Meet the foe in open field:
There, like hardy patriots ſtand,
Rank'd in Britain's loyal band;
There, reſolv'd t' o'ercome or die,
Let the thund'ring volley fly;
There thy native courage ſhew,
And death diſpenſe at ev'ry blow.

Let the death-deſtructive ball
Make unnumber'd Frenchmen fall;
Make their chiefs thy vengeance dread,
Wreck thy fury on each head,
Let there be on every blade
Clots of Gallic blood diſplay'd;
Let each Gallic boſom feel
The conqu'ring force of Britiſh ſteel.

Shew the man; Gaul's hoſts defy;
Fight for death or liberty;
Gain by death a laſting name,
Or by freedom England's fame:
So let Gallia's ſons be told,
Britiſh hearts are ever bold
England's freedom to defend,
Or in its cauſe exiſtence end.

Fleet-ſtreet, London. H. H.

SONNET *to the* REDBREAST.

SWEET warbling bird, with dulcet note,
To Sappho's breaſt repair,
There be thy captive woes forgot,
The loves are neſted there!
And while thy ſtrains thy tale impart,
Let this their burden be,
"The pangs which rend my maſter's heart,
"Are all for love of thee!"
Sweet warbling bird, it pureſt love,
Thy little heart e'er knew,
Or if thy artleſs pipe e'er ſtrove,
Thy feather'd mate to woo:
Ah! then for me thy dulcet note diſplay,
And my fond muſe ſhall ever bleſs thy lay.